



Sittingbourne RUFC

Est 1976

Gore Court Cricket Club, The Grove, Key Street,
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1YT

SRUFC COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 28 July 2026 on Teams

Attending:

David Hall, Steve Jeffery, Dave Hicks, Chloe Tyler, Deane Gaunt, James Fassenfelt, Al Sharman, Natasha Jeffery, Kelly Miller, Martin Clark, Chris Nutley

Apologies:

Gary Miller, Simon Fudge, Luc Jeffery, Lucy Davies

Dear all,

Please see the notes from the call this eve, key points to call out:

- Membership meeting to be arranged to cover membership discussion including ladies (full agenda to follow before 24th August)
- Sponsorship meeting to be arranged with Jamie before 24th August to cover where we are, whose in the pipeline etc (full agenda to follow)
- Agreed to hold a meeting in August this year as a lot going on.. Meeting date 24th August - Teams

Meeting notes:

Committee Action Plan and Subcommittee Roles:

- Steve, Chris, Martin, and Dave discussed the committee action plan, the need to revisit it next season, and the establishment of subcommittees for new club delivery and management, with a focus on defining and publicizing roles and assigning responsibilities.
 - **Action Plan Review:** Steve confirmed that the committee action plan had been agreed upon and will be revisited in the next season, ensuring ongoing alignment with club objectives.
 - **Subcommittee Formation:** The group identified the need to set up subcommittees for new club delivery and management, with Steve emphasizing the importance of listing roles to be fulfilled and Chris suggesting publicizing these roles and assigning responsibilities.
 - **Volunteer Service Coordination:** Steve and Martin discussed contacting the Swale Volunteer Service, with Hayley previously volunteering to reach out, and Martin agreeing to have Hayley review the list of roles before proceeding.
- **Meeting Scheduling and Attendance:**

Steve, David, Martin, and others evaluated the current meeting schedule, considering a shift back to Mondays to accommodate increased training sessions and improve attendance, especially for key members like Gary, Simon, and Luke.

- **Training Schedule Impact:** Steve explained that the club now trains twice a week, making Mondays a more suitable day for meetings compared to previous years when meetings were held on Wednesdays.



Sittingbourne RUFC

Est 1976

*Gore Court Cricket Club, The Grove, Key Street,
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1YT*

- **Attendance Challenges:** David and Steve noted that several members, including Luc, Simon & Gary are unable to attend due to training conflicts, reinforcing the need to reconsider the meeting day.
- **Consensus on Monday Meetings:** The group reached a consensus that moving meetings to Mondays would likely improve attendance, with Martin and David supporting the change and referencing a previous close vote on the matter.

- **Membership Structure and Payment Options:**

Steve, Deane, David, Chris, and others discussed the club's membership structure, confirming that prices will remain unchanged, and explored options for adding 'Buy a Brick' and club lottery upsells to the membership process.

- **Membership Pricing Policy:** Deane clarified that membership prices cannot be changed outside of the AGM, so the current rates will remain for the upcoming season.
- **Additional Membership Options:** Dave and Steve proposed offering optional add-ons such as 'Buy a Brick' and club lottery participation during the membership sign-up process.
- **Website Capabilities:** Chris questioned whether the club's website could handle multiple options, and David confirmed that he could look into adding various membership combinations for easier selection.

- **Ladies Team Recruitment, Subs, and Match Fees:**

Chloe, Steve, Dave, Chris, and others reviewed the Inner Warrior recruitment drive, discussed new player attendance, and debated appropriate subs and match fees for the ladies team, including the possibility of negotiating reduced rates and seeking sponsorship.

- **Recruitment Progress:** Chloe reported that the Inner Warrior recruitment drive has brought in three new consistent players and two more planning to attend preseason, with provisional fixtures scheduled.
- **Subs and Match Fee Discussion:** The group compared subs and match fees with other clubs, noting Maidstone's previous £10 per game charge and considering whether to implement a similar fee or cover costs through membership.
- **Cost Breakdown and Negotiation:** James detailed current match costs, including £127.50 per match and referee fees, while Deane suggested negotiating a reduced rate for the ladies team with Fred, and Steve agreed to initiate this discussion.
- **Sponsorship and Grants:** Dave and Al encouraged seeking sponsors to cover match fees, and Chloe agreed to pursue this, with Martin and Chloe also discussing the possibility of applying for relevant grants.

- **Sponsorship Strategy and Implementation:**

Steve, Dave, Martin, Chris, and others addressed the urgent need to finalize sponsorship plans for the new club, including approaches from external organizations, the logistics of sponsorship boards, and the need for a dedicated meeting with Jamie to coordinate efforts.



Sittingbourne RUFC

Est 1976

Gore Court Cricket Club, The Grove, Key Street,
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1YT

- **Sponsorship Inquiries:** Natasha shared that the club has received sponsorship interest from an Irish tutoring company and a fostering agency, both seeking opportunities to advertise with the club.
- **Sponsorship Board Logistics:** Martin and Dave discussed the physical requirements for sponsorship boards, considering options such as wooden posts, rails, and pop-up flags, and the need to comply with safety regulations regarding placement.
- **Action Plan for Sponsorship:** Natasha took responsibility for arranging a meeting with Jamie to clarify sponsorship offerings, pricing, and logistics, with Dave noting the urgency of finalizing these plans.
- **Mapping and Measurement:** Deane offered to map the pitch using GPS to ensure accurate placement of sponsorship boards, and Chris highlighted the importance of measuring distances for safety compliance.

- **Club Development and Equipment Updates:**

Chris, Steve, and others provided updates on club development, including the arrival of robotic lawnmowers, insurance requirements, and the status of shared usage agreements and equipment subscriptions.

- **Robotic Lawn Mowers:** Chris confirmed the arrival of two robotic lawnmowers, which will be insured once the club moves into the new facility, and discussed the need for promotional footage as requested by the supplier-discuss with Luc
- **Shared Usage Agreement:** Chris noted that the shared usage agreement with Swale has been received and will be circulated for review, with the club retaining its name.
- **Equipment Subscriptions:** Steve reported that Chalky will continue to pay for the live subscription for the VEO equipment, with the club covering the other subscription, and that all equipment is now on site.

- **Welcome to the new Safeguarding Officer:**

Steve welcomed Kelly as the new safeguarding officer attending the meeting, with Kelly confirming completion of required training for her & Tracy, and Chris announcing the circulation of updated club documents for review.

- **Safeguarding Officer Update:** Kelly confirmed completion of the safeguarding course and readiness for the role, with David requesting a contact number for website and poster updates.
- **Document Circulation:** Chris stated that all club documents have been updated and will be circulated to the wider audience for review before implementation.

- **Anti-Sexism and Misogyny Policy Awareness:**

Chloe informed the group about the new RFU anti-sexism and misogyny policy, suggesting it be incorporated into the club's code of conduct, with David agreeing to add it to the website.

- **Policy Notification:** Chloe highlighted the release of the RFU's anti-sexism and misogyny policy and its relevance for club conduct and reporting procedures.



Sittingbourne RUFC

Est 1976

*Gore Court Cricket Club, The Grove, Key Street,
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1YT*

- **Website Update:** David agreed to add the new policy to the club website to ensure compliance and awareness among members.
- **Next Meeting Planning:**
 - **August Meeting Scheduling:** The group discussed availability and agreed to schedule the next meeting for August 24th , with additional smaller meetings beforehand to maintain momentum (as above)

Follow-up tasks:

- **Subcommittees and Role Assignment:** Compile a list of roles to be fulfilled for new club delivery and management, and publicize them to assign responsibilities. (Natasha, Martin, Chris)
- **Volunteer Service Contact:** Coordinate with Hayley to contact the Swale Volunteer Service after the list of roles is prepared. (Martin)
- **Football Shirt Distribution:** Contact local schools to determine if they need football kits and arrange distribution of surplus shirts. (Martin)
- **Membership Options Update:** Investigate adding options for "Buy a Brick" and Club Lotto to the membership sign-up process on the website. (David)
- **MOU with Ankorians:** Send a message to Greg to initiate the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process for the under 14s team. (Chris)
- **Ladies Team Match Fees:** Speak to Fred about negotiating a reduced match fee rate for the ladies team. (Steve)
- **Ladies Team Sponsorship:** Seek sponsors to help cover match fees for the ladies team and explore grant opportunities for women's rugby. (Chloe)
- **Current Sponsors for Ladies Team:** Approach current club sponsors to see if they are interested in sponsoring the women's team. (Al)
- **Teardrop Flags Location:** Ask junior chairs or managers if they have the club's teardrop flags. (Al)
- **Safeguarding Officer Contact Info:** Provide Kelly's phone number to update the website and safeguarding poster. (Kelly)